

people served, the number of people on waiting lists, and the effectiveness of treatment programs.

(3) Management of parolees and pretrial violent offenders, including the number of halfway house escapes and steps taken to improve monitoring and supervision of halfway house residents to reduce the number of escapes.

(4) Education, including access to special education services and student achievement.

(5) Improvement in basic city services, including rat control and abatement.

(6) Application for and management of Federal grants.

(7) Indicators of child well-being.

SEC. 171. The Mayor, prior to using Federal Medicaid payments to Disproportionate Share Hospitals to serve a small number of childless adults, should consider the recommendations of the Health Care Development Commission that has been appointed by the Council of the District of Columbia to review this program, and consult and report to Congress on the use of these funds.

SEC. 172. GAO STUDY OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a study of the law enforcement, court, prison, probation, parole, and other components of the criminal justice system of the District of Columbia, in order to identify the components most in need of additional resources, including financial, personnel, and management resources; and

(2) submit to Congress a report on the results of the study under paragraph (1).

SEC. 173. Nothing in this Act bars the District of Columbia Corporation Counsel from reviewing or commenting on briefs in private lawsuits, or from consulting with officials of the District government regarding such lawsuits.

SEC. 174. WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall—

(1) implement the notice of decision approved by the National Capital Regional Director, dated April 7, 1999, including the provisions of the notice of decision concerning the issuance of right-of-way permits at market rates; and

(2) expend such sums as are necessary to carry out paragraph (1).

(b) ANTENNA APPLICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the receipt of an application, a Federal agency that receives an application submitted after the enactment of this Act to locate a wireless communications antenna on Federal property in the District of Columbia or surrounding area over which the Federal agency exercises control shall take final action on the application, including action on the issuance of right-of-way permits at market rates.

(2) EXISTING LAW.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect the applicability of existing laws regarding—

(A) judicial review under chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code (the Administrative Procedure Act), and the Communications Act of 1934;

(B) the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act and other applicable Federal statutes; and

(C) the authority of a State or local government or instrumentality thereof, including the District of Columbia, in the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities.

SEC. 175. (a)(1) The first paragraph under the heading "Community Development Block Grants" in title II of H.R. 2684 (Public Law 106-74) is amended by inserting after "National American Indian Housing Council," the following: "\$4,000,000 shall be available as a grant for the Special Olympics in Anchorage, Alaska to develop the Ben Boeke Arena and Hilltop Ski Area,"; and

(2) The paragraph that includes the words "Economic Development Initiative (EDI)" under the heading "Community Development Block Grants" in title II of H.R. 2684 (Public Law 106-74) is amended by striking "\$240,000,000" and inserting "\$243,500,000".

(b) The statement of the managers of the committee of conference accompanying H.R. 2684 is deemed to be amended under the heading "Community Development Block Grants" to include in the description of targeted economic development initiatives the following:

"\$1,000,000 for the New Jersey Community Development Corporation for the construction of the New Jersey Community Development Corporation's Transportation Opportunity Center;

"\$750,000 for South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota for the development of a performing arts center;

"\$925,000 for the Florida Association of Counties for a Rural Capacity Building Pilot Project in Tallahassee, Florida;

"\$500,000 for the Osceola County Agriculture Center for construction of a new and expanded agriculture center in Osceola County, Florida;

"\$1,000,000 for the University of Syracuse in Syracuse, New York for electrical infrastructure improvements."; and the current descriptions are amended as follows:

"\$1,700,000 to the City of Miami, Florida for the development of a Homeownership Zone to assist residents displaced by the demolition of public housing in the Model City area," is amended to read as follows:

"\$1,700,000 to Miami-Dade County, Florida for an economic development project at the Opa-locka Neighborhood Center";

"\$250,000 to the Arizona Science Center in Yuma, Arizona for its after-school program for inner-city youth," is amended to read as follows:

"\$250,000 to the Arizona Science Center in Phoenix, Arizona for its after-school program for inner-city youth";

"\$200,000 to the Schuylkill County Fire Fighters Association for a smoke-maze building on the grounds of the firefighters facility in Morea, Pennsylvania;" is amended to read as follows:

"\$200,000 to the Schuylkill County Fire Fighters Association for a smoke-maze building and other facilities and improvements on the grounds of the firefighters facility in Morea, Pennsylvania";

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the \$2,000,000 made available pursuant to Public Law 105-276 for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to redevelop the Sun Co./LTV Steel Site in Hazelwood, Pennsylvania is available to the Department of Economic Development in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania for the development of a technology based project in the county.

(d) Insert the following new sections at the end of the administrative provisions in title II of H.R. 2684 (Public Law 106-74):

#### "FHA MULTIFAMILY MORTGAGE CREDIT DEMONSTRATION

"SEC. 226. Section 542 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 is amended—

"(1) in subsection (b)(5) by striking 'during fiscal year 1999' and inserting 'in each of the fiscal years 1999 and 2000'; and

"(2) in the first sentence of subsection (c)(4) by striking 'during fiscal year 1999' and inserting 'in each of fiscal years 1999 and 2000'.

#### "DRUG ELIMINATION PROGRAM

"SEC. 227. (a) Section 5126(4) of the Public and Assisted Housing Drug Elimination Act of 1990 is amended—

"(1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting after '1965,' the following: 'or';

"(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking '1937: or' and inserting '1937: and

"(3) by striking subparagraph (D).

"(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be construed to have taken effect on October 21, 1998.".

This title may be cited as the "District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2000".

#### TITLE II—TAX REDUCTION

SEC. 201. COMMENDING REDUCTION OF TAXES BY DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. The Congress commends the District of Columbia for its action to reduce taxes, and ratifies D.C. Act 13-110 (commonly known as the Service Improvement and Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Support Act of 1999).

SEC. 202. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION. Nothing in this title may be construed to limit the ability of the Council of the District of Columbia to amend or repeal any provision of law described in this title.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, in open session, to receive testimony on the lessons learned from the military operations conducted as part of Operation Allied Force, and associated relief operations, with respect to Kosovo.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, for purposes of conducting a full committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, at 10:30 a.m. to hold a business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, at 10 a.m. for a business meeting to consider pending committee business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND DRINKING WATER

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water be authorized to conduct a hearing Wednesday, November 3, 10 a.m., hearing room (SD-406), to examine solutions to the policy concerns with respect to habitat conservation plans.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### CALIFORNIA DESERT PROTECTION ACT ANNIVERSARY

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, this week marks the fifth anniversary of the California Desert Protection Act, a bill I authored that was signed into law on October 31, 1994. This Act marked a watershed event for California and for the 2.8 million people who visit this pristine national treasure each year. This was the most extensive land-protection bill in U.S. history and protected the largest parcel of land in the continental U.S.

The bill was unique in many ways. It designated national park and Bureau of Land Management wilderness areas comprising more than 7.7 million acres, the highest category of federal protection. It also designated the Death Valley National Park and Joshua Tree National Park in areas that formerly fell under less protected "national monument" status and created the 1.6 million acre Mojave National Preserve.

At the time of its passage, the Desert Protection Act was the centerpiece of a long and contentious battle among a variety of different stakeholders. It faced enormous opposition from groups and individuals concerned about private property rights, grazing permits, mining claims, and access for off-road vehicle use. The bill took nearly eight years to pass over objections from miners, property owners, hunters, ranchers and off-road enthusiasts, who thought the legislation would restrict too much land and hurt business. I worked hard to craft a bill that protected private property rights and safeguarded the region's job base while preserving a treasured resource—the California Desert.

I am proud to say that after 5 years there has not been a single instance of a land transaction that did not involve a willing seller and willing buyer. Grazing has not been impeded and valid mining rights have been upheld. The 25 million acres of California desert remain a place of extraordinary beauty and diverse resources. There are soaring sand dunes, ninety mountain ranges, extinct volcanoes, streams, lakes, wildflowers, the world's largest Joshua Tree forest, waterfalls and cactus gardens.

The land also includes over 100,000 archaeological sites, including the only-known dinosaur tracks in California, believed to be more than 100 million years old. More than 760 different wildlife species call the rugged California desert home. The protected land has aided in the recovery of the desert tortoise and has provided thousands of acres of needed habitat for big horn sheep.

The Death Valley National Park consists of more than 3.3 million acres of spectacular desert scenery, interesting and rare desert wildlife, complex geology, undisturbed wilderness and dozens of historical and cultural interest sites. It contains the lowest point in the Western hemisphere, the Death Valley badwater, which rests 282 feet below sea level. The Joshua Tree National Park comprises two deserts and vividly illustrates the contrast between high and low desert. Below 3000 feet, the eastern half of the park is the land of the creosote bush, smoke trees and occotillo. The higher, cooler and slightly wetter Western part is dominated by Joshua Trees.

But the crown jewel of the California Desert is the Mojave National Preserve whose geographical and wildlife diversity are practically unrivaled. The area contains eleven mountain ranges, four dry lakes, cinder cones, badlands, innumerable washes, mesas, buttes, lava tube caves, alluvial fans and one of California's most complex sand dune systems.

I would like to especially thank Mary Martin, the Mojave National Preserve Superintendent for her diligence and the commendable job she has done balancing the diverse needs of the Preserve with those of all the stakeholders who work and/or use the land.

The desert parks have attracted record numbers of tourists in recent years from across the globe. Tourism has increased the visibility of California's natural resources, created jobs for desert residents and brought additional income. In 1997, the three parks created more than 6,000 jobs and over \$22 million in tax revenue from tourist expenditures.

The passage of the California Desert Protection Act has been one of my proudest accomplishments in the Senate. But there is still more work to be done.

To encourage out nation's westward expansion, in 1864 Congress gave the railroad industry every other section of land in a 50 mile swath in what is now the Mojave National Preserve and Joshua Tree National Park. Most of this remaining checkerboard arrangement of land is owned by the Catellus Development Corporation.

Earlier this year David Myers, the Executive Director of the Wildlands Conservancy, brokered a deal with Catellus to sell these lands at well below market value. Through David's hard work, The Wildlands Conservancy raised \$25.5 million in private funding and donated land. The Catellus Corporation agreed to donate an additional \$16.4 million in land.

Through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund the U.S. would acquire 487,000 acres of protected land. This includes 150,000 acres of Congressionally designated Wilderness areas, 87,000 acres in the Mojave National Preserve, 18,700 acres in Joshua Tree, land in Big Morongo, San Geronio wilderness, and the Kelso Dunes.

This acquisition would formalize rights-of-way over 165 jeep trails and dirt access roads leading to 3.7 million acres of land used for hunting, hiking, sightseeing, camping and recreational vehicle use.

The land includes the biggest cactus gardens in the world at the Bigelow Cholla Gardens.

The acquisition also includes one hundred miles of scenic lands and historic water stops along historic route 66 and would help to conserve one of the single most intact portions of America's "Mother Road" which provided many Americans their first look at the Golden State and became the source of much of America's western migration folklore.

The purchase is supported by an overwhelming majority of constituents in the 40th Congressional District including Republicans and Democrats alike and a broad coalition of interest groups from the Sierra Club to the National Rifle Association. This transaction would be one of the biggest land acquisitions in California history and one of the most substantial gifts ever to the American people.

It is my hope that we can take advantage of this rare opportunity to purchase these valuable lands and remove any remaining impediments for the millions of hikers, campers, and other recreationists who will continue to visit and enjoy this pristine area in the heart of California.

#### ASTEROID RESEARCH

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I want to commend a group of New Mexicans who are achieving some phenomenal results. In fact, they're currently battling .500 and more. If they were baseball players they would be acclaimed on every sports page.

But instead of baseball, this group has discovered half of the comets that are currently visible through telescopes. One of their latest comet discoveries may be bright enough to see with binoculars next year. And it's probably safe to guess that the brightest of comets attracts an audience well in excess of those watching major league baseball.

Instead of baseball bats, they are using a telescope at the north end of White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. This Lincoln Near-Earth Asteroid Research project is run by Lincoln Laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of technology. A second telescope at the site started operations in the last week—that may boost their discoveries still further.